

Claims

1 1. A search method for identifying spatially relevant information in proximity to a
2 reference location comprising the steps of:

3 providing a spatial lexicography database containing locations which define the
4 searchable universe, said database comprising: a) coordinate information; and, b) identifier
5 information;

6 providing a second database which contains spatial information;

7 providing a search criteria comprising a reference location and a search radius about
8 said reference location;

9 converting said reference location into a three dimensional coordinate;

10 thereafter, converting said search radius into a coordinate box surrounding said
11 reference coordinate which sets the outer boundary for selecting identifier information;

12 selecting all identifier information from the spatial lexicography database which fall
13 within the coordinate box; and

14 comparing the spatial information of said second database against the selected
15 identifier information where matches of information from both databases identify spatially
16 relevant information.

1 2. The search method of claim 1 wherein the spatial lexicography database further
2 comprises attribute information associated with any of said locations; and,

3 said search criteria further comprises the use of numerical and character string value
4 parameters for comparison against said attribute information for further refining the selection
5 of identifier information.

1 3. A spatial lexicography database for resolving different ways of identifying
2 locations to one another, said database comprising:

- 3 a. a coordinate system selected from the group comprising: arbitrary, geocentric,
4 virtual, and galactic;
5 b. identifier information; and
6 c. attribute information.

1 4. A spider for parsing resources identified by web addresses located on the internet
2 wherein the improvement comprises:

3 accepting a resource for deposit into a topical database only if the resource contains
4 spatial information; and, where said resource is thereafter indexed against a spatial
5 lexicography database by identifier information.

6 5. The spider of claim 4 where the spider only searches a web resource if it obtained
7 the web address of said resource from a previous resource containing spatial information.

1 6. A spider for parsing non-web data repositories comprising:

2 accepting a resource for deposit into a topical database only if the resource contains
3 spatial information; and, where said resource is thereafter indexed against a spatial
4 lexicography database by identifier information.